From: Laura Bruner [treasures@bhic.net]

Sent: Saturday, December 13, 2003 3:31 PM

To: adoptionregs@state.gov

Subject: [Docket No: RIN 1400-AA-88; 1400-AB-69];[FR Doc: 03-28544];[Page 64296-64297]; Intercountry

Adoption Act of 2000: Hague Convention Agency accreditation and person approval

I am writing regarding the Hague Convention bill 22CFR Parts 96 & 98. As a certified adoptions investigator for the state of South Carolina, I am asking you to carefully consider the ramifications of this bill. Many families that I have worked with have a love for children and want to provide the best home for them possible. If the financial responsibilities for the agencies that assist adoptions is raised considerably, then the families will also be asked to pay more and will be unable to continue pursuing the adoption process. This will, in turn, mean countless children will be left in orphanages throughout the world and without the chance of joining these loving families. In addition, this bill is stating that homestudies will need to be conducted only by those who have a master's degree in Social Work. That requirement would reduce the amount of home study investigators dramatically thus making more work for those who are qualified and more waiting time for the families involved. I do believe that it is important for the investigators to be appropriately trained for their part in the adoption process, but being required to have a masters degree in a specific field is asking too much!

Thank you for your consideration on this bill and for not allowing this bill to be passed.